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**Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
Public Safety Committee
Meeting of July 21, 2004**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Public Safety Committee Chairman, Chester Stribling, called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm

2. Introduction of Participants

Present were:

- Mr. Ray Graham, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- Mr. Chester Stribling, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- The Honorable Jonathan S. Lynn, Commonwealth's Attorney
- Sheriff Charlie Ray Fox, Jr., Fauquier County Sheriff
- Mr. G. Robert Lee, County Administrator
- Ms. Catherine Heritage, Assistant County Administrator
- Lt. Colonel Dave Flohr, Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
- Mr. Bill Dugan, WFJCC
- Mr. Tim McMenamin, Director, WFJCC
- Mr. Tom Marable, President, Fauquier Fire and Rescue Association
- Chief Philip Myer, Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services
- Mr. Garrett Moore, VDOT
- Mr. Ronnie Sheetz, Fauquier County Operations Dept.
- Mr. Charles Shephard, Virginia Department of Health
- Dr. Nasser Sitta, Fauquier Hospital
- Dr. Bill Barker, Fauquier Hospital
- Mr. Tom Pavelko, Staff to the Public Safety Committee

*Ms. Alexandra Bogedahovic of the Fauquier Times Democrat joined the Public Safety Committee as an observer.

3. Approval of the Minutes and Agenda

Mr. Stribling called for approval of the current agenda and the minutes of the May 19, 2004 meeting. Seconded: Mr. Graham. Adopted.

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4. Speed Limit Issues

In response to numerous citizen complaints regarding excessive vehicle speed on the County's roads, Garrett Moore spoke on the possibility of changing the speed limit in certain locations. He advised that changing speed limits can be a lengthy and costly process. All secondary roads have a mandatory 45 mph speed limit in place and any changes would have to be made county-wide. Changing these limits would first require a study by the state and the replacement of all signs, if approved, could cost up to \$350,000. Mr. Moore suggested as an alternative, to place additional "Slow" signs and flashing lights in the problem areas. General discussion ensued. Sheriff Fox advised that radar enforcement will be increased in certain areas. It was recommended that members of the Board of Supervisors meet with the Transportation Committee to make recommendations and find possible solutions.

5. Emergency Response Times

Tom Marable advised that a thirty day dual dispatch system has been deployed to alleviate some of the delayed response times that the Fire and Rescue Association has been experiencing lately. The Fire and Rescue Association is also considering staffing alternatives by combining resources from all departments, as a possible solution. He assured the Committee that this matter is being taken seriously. Mr. Graham advised that strides have been made in regards to staffing, but all agreed that more progress needs to be made. To ensure full coverage of all fire stations, Philip Myer indicated that an additional 6 staff are needed. This would be enough to get personnel to twelve hour shifts and then no fire station would go unstaffed.

6. Regional Training Academy

Sheriff Fox spoke on his plans for the Sheriff's Office to withdraw from the Northern Virginia Training Academy. All members of the Academy must vote unanimously in order for Fauquier County to withdraw. The vote will occur in September 2004. If there is not a unanimous vote, then Fauquier will have to wait until 2006 in accordance with the contract and state law. He advised the response from the Regional Academy Board thus far has been favorable.

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7. Roundtable

Bill Dugan announced that testing of the 800 MHz system continues and is actually ahead of schedule. Training on the system has begun at the fire stations. They are developing feedback and addressing problem coverage areas through out the county. Full implementation is expected by the end of August 2004. The paging system cannot be activated until all acceptance tests have been completed. Tim McMenamin introduced himself as the new Director of the Warrenton Fauquier Joint Communications Center. Philip Myer announced that research is to begin on the purchase of a mobile data center.

8. Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Mr. Stribling called for adjournment at 6:16 pm. Generally concurred.

Given under my hand this 4th day of August 2004

Thomas S. Pavelko, Lead Staff
Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee